

riot. The results also show that overall black employment decreased and that fewer blacks held property after the riot. However, because of the many data problems and simplicity of estimation techniques, these results should be taken with caution.

The remainder of this paper will proceed as follows: Section II will describe the data used in the study, Section III will discuss methodology used in the study, Section IV will present results, and Section V will provide a conclusion.

## **II. Data**

The 1897 and 1900 city directories for the city of Wilmington, North Carolina are one of the primary data sources for this study. The directory data is divided into a business section and an individual listing section. The directories were compiled and published every three years by the J.L. Hill Printing Company and sold to residents of the city for three dollars. The data set compiled for this study uses each entry in the business and individual listing sections of the directory as an observation. Each observation has information on the full name of the business owner or individual, the owner's or individual's race, occupation and address.<sup>2</sup>

The data is valuable because it is the only source that offers information in an interval sufficiently short and relevant to provide any meaningful results. It allows us to track individuals across years immediately before and shortly after the riot. We can examine the occupational status and business ownership patterns among people living in the city before the riot and remaining in the city after violence took place.

However, there are several problems with this data source that should be noted. City directory data is an incomplete sample of the population and businesses that operated within the city. City directories do not include data on descriptive characteristics

---

<sup>2</sup> In the directory, black individuals are identified by a star (\*) in front of the name.